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## COLUMBIA REDS DON'T TRY COUP

### No Offensive Operation Launched This Year

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Communist guerrillas in Colombia have not been able to launch a single offensive operation in 1968. Their ineffectiveness seems to have erased any hope they had of toppling the democratic government of President Carlos Lleras.

In fact, there are some Communist sources who acknowledge that for the time being guerrilla warfare does not have any future here. Instead the Communists are said to have decided to shift emphasis and plan to provoke urban unrest by students and labor unions.

Government reports say there have been no guerrilla-initiated actions this year and more than 100 guerrillas have been killed so far, almost one-fourth of the estimated number believed operating at the end of 1967.

The expert, black-bereted antiguerrilla units of the Colombian army, veterans of 20 years in this kind of war, have restricted to remote mountain enclaves one pro-Soviet Communist party group of 300, made up mostly of peasants.

The other group, which reflects the division in the world Communist movement even in Colombia, is a pro-Castro force of 100 composed mostly of former university students. Weakened by internal dissension, it is reported divided into three groups trying to escape encirclement.

In addition to the success of the army and the division among the Communists, another factor in the guerrillas' decline has been the success of the Lleras government's economic reforms, including agrarian reform. This has robbed the guerrillas of one of their main ideological weapons.

And the peasants, who went through 10 years of savage civil warfare from 1948 to 1958, are not very enthusiastic about fighting once again.